

Burglar Strips Store of \$3,500 in Dresses

Steals Stock Of Size 12 Frocks

A fashion-conscious burglar with a fancy—or need—for size 12 dresses broke into the Joyce Sport shop at 1112 Crenshaw blvd., this week and made off with 84 dresses and 30 skirts valued at \$3,500.

It was the sixth time in five years the shop had been burglarized, according to Mrs. Joyce Brown, the proprietor. Six months ago, when the shop was broken into, \$180 dollars worth of dresses—all size 12—were taken.

A rock thrown through the front door window enabled the burglar or burglars to reach the door and open it. Mrs. Brown estimated that the clothing was taken between 11 p.m. on Monday and 5:45 a.m. on Tuesday.

The store, fronting on Crenshaw, just off Torrance blvd., was lighted all night.

Torrance police officers were on the scene Tuesday morning, but did not report their findings.

Mrs. Brown said she did not carry any insurance on her stock. "It will take me some time to get back on my feet," she added.

Propose Bond Advisory Body

Formation of a Torrance Civic Progress Committee to guide city officials in utilizing the \$4,000,000 airport and park and recreation bond issues—if adopted by the voters on October 29—was promised by the City Council this week.

Mayor Albert Isen and Councilmen Victor E. Benstead, Nicholas O. Dralle, and Robert B. Jahn went on record at Tuesday night's council meeting to set up an advisory group consisting of representatives of business, civic, labor and home owners organizations to assist in deciding when bonds are to be issued, what land acquisitions are to be made and how much money is to be spent.

The committee, suggested by Mayor Isen, is modeled after the St. Louis Civic Progress Association. "The first Tuesday after the bonds have carried, such a committee will be created," Isen said.

He Won the Race, But...

A 27-year-old former Torrance resident celebrated the birth of his fourth child this week and ended up in Harbor General Hospital.

Paul J. Hooker, who, until six weeks ago, lived at 22110 Albert ave., Torrance, raced David K. Smith, 26, of 21709 Ocean ave., to Smith's home Tuesday morning. He won the race, but his sports car was struck by Smith's as he turned into the driveway.

Hooker was thrown out of his car when it lurched to a stop, 30 feet from the point of impact. He suffered severe scalp lacerations and a possible concussion. Smith injured his knee and broke a tooth.

Gee Hearing Oct. 22

Former Torrance police warrant officer Jack Gee was ordered to appear before Superior Judge Louis J. Burke on October 22 to enter his plea to six charges of embezzling public funds. He is free on \$2,500 bail.

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FASHIONABLE BURGLARY

Mrs. Joyce Brown, proprietor of Joyce Sport shop, hefts the stone a burglar flung through the door of her shop. Dresses valued at \$3,500 were stolen.

Shopping Center Aims At Fall '58 Opening

Bids for the construction of the \$40,000,000 Torrance Shopping Center at Hawthorne ave., and Sepulveda blvd., will be let Tuesday and completion of the Broadway-Hale store, one of the two major department stores in the project, is scheduled for October, 1958, Mayor Albert Isen announced this week.

Isen told a meeting of civic leaders who came together Monday night to discuss the issues in the special October 29 election that officials of the Del Amo Estates Co. and Broadway Hale Stores, Inc., reported plans for the shopping center would be completed by October 15 and construction bids invited then. Officials of Sears, Roebuck, Inc., the second major department store in the center, reported that final plans were nearly completed, Isen said. Sears did not indicate its construction schedule or target.

Broadway-Hale executives wired Isen that construction on its store would probably begin before the end of the year. At the same time officials of a supermarket on the shopping center site told Mayor Isen that they plan to complete the construction of their store two months before Broadway-Hale opens its doors next year.

DRAG RACE ENDS IN DEATH; 2 TORRANCE YOUTHS INJURED

Trash Collections Rise -- So Does Confusion

Torrance Street department's biggest problem is not the 35 percent increase in the amount of rubbish and trash collected since October 1 but the increase in confusion among the city's homeowners, according to Ralph Perkins, superintendent of the Park and Street department.

Perkins reported hundreds of calls from homeowners apparently following the changes in rubbish collection undertaken within Los Angeles city limits.

Torrance residents need only place newspapers and other trash that had been previously burned in incinerators into containers, either paper cartons or lightweight metal barrels to have the rubbish picked up by Street department employees on their regularly scheduled pickup days, Perkins explained.

He asked homeowners to place no more than 70 lbs. of trash into the containers. More than one container or barrel may be used, he added. Tin cans, bottles and other non-combustible material must be in separate containers. Lawn and tree trimmings can be mixed with combustible rubbish, but branches four feet or more in length must be tied in bundles, Perkins said.

Five new trucks have been added to the city's fleet of eight to handle the 35 percent increase in rubbish collections since October 1, when incinerator burning was banned in the county. The 13 trucks, manned

by 37 men, have more than kept abreast of the increase, Perkins explained.

For the most part, rubbish pickup schedules are being maintained as they were before October 1. But the increased efficiency made possible by the use of the new trucks, 20 cubic yard load packers, has enabled the Street department to make more pickups during a day. This accounts for the setting of new schedules in some areas, Perkins explained.

Residents of the areas in which pickup schedules are changed are notified by Street department employees days in advance of the change. Perkins said that department employees are now notifying residents of the area bounded by Western ave., Sepulveda blvd., Crenshaw blvd. and 236th st. that collections will be made on Wednesday of each week, instead of Friday. Similar notification will go to residents of other areas when changes are scheduled, he said.

Death was the winner of a drag race this week. A 16-year-old Wilmington girl was killed, two Torrance teenagers seriously injured, and three other youngsters hospitalized as their car ramed into a house and burst into flames Monday morning.

Karen Allison, 16, of 22428 Marbella ave., Wilmington, died at Harbor General Hospital 15 minutes after she was lifted from the wreckage of the souped-up automobile she was driving.



DEATH'S IMPACT

Richard Meyers surveys the wreckage left when a drag race ended on his doorstep. Driver of the car, Karen Allison, 16, was killed.

In critical condition at the hospital were Questa Stonesifer, 16, of 203 W. 224th st. and William Hayes, 17, of 1015 W. 277th st., both of Torrance. Also on the critical list, hospital authorities reported were: Henry Morales, 21, of 517 Neptune st., Wilmington, and Robert Stuber, 23, of 1421 Gaviota st., Long Beach. Catherine Hobbs, 15, of 1741 Lakme ave., Wilmington, was reported in satisfactory condition.

WRECKS HOME

The car, driven by Miss Allison, jumped a curb, clipped down a tree and plowed into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Meyers, of 22820 Dolores st., Wilmington. Meyers, his wife, Geraldine, and their two daughters, Melinda, 5, and Karen, 3, were uninjured.

A hole about six feet across and 10 feet deep was torn through the concrete foundation of a corner of the house. The car motor was slammed back into the front seat.

According to California Highway patrolmen, Miss Allison began the drag race by chasing another automobile loaded with teenagers from a drive-in restaurant at Sepulveda and Avalon blvds., Torrance. At 228 and Dolores sts., the other car slowed down suddenly. Miss Allison jammed on her brakes, swerved to the left, struck a patch of gravel and skidded up the street into the Meyers home. The other car raced away.

County firemen were on the scene quickly to douse the fire in the car before it spread to the house.

Funeral services for Miss Allison were conducted Tuesday at Avalon Village Baptist Church. Her body was sent to Utah for interment by her father, Boyd. Miss Allison is survived by her mother, Mrs. Maxine Harris, three brothers and a sister.

Hayes suffered a broken neck and is completely paralyzed. Miss Stonesifer has a broken thigh-bone. Morales suffered a concussion and broken leg. Miss Hobbs also has a broken thigh bone. Stuber has a concussion, dislocated hip and multiple cuts.

Stuber owned the vehicle and permitted Miss Allison, who did not have a driver's permit, to drive. He sat in the front seat with her as she raced down the streets in pursuit of taunting opponents.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS READY

Applications for absentee voter ballots for the October 29 special municipal election will be obtainable by individual voters at the City Clerk's office through October 24, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. Absentee voters will have six days after October 29 in which to return their ballots.

Civic Leaders Urge 'Yes' Vote on Bonds

The campaign to arouse public support of the three propositions in the special October 29 election—approval of the \$1,000,000 bond issue to improve the airport, the \$3,000,000 bond issue to increase park and recreational facilities and adoption of a charter amendment providing for direct election of the Mayor—shifted into high gear this week.

Mayor Albert Isen and members of the city council spearheaded the opening of the election drive at a meeting of representatives from major Torrance organizations Monday night. Eighty-four leaders of civic, fraternal, church and social organizations attended the dinner-meeting at the Villa Capri restaurant.

They heard city officials urge adoption of the bond issues to buy sites and make improvements on a "use now and pay later" basis, as City Manager George W. Stevens described it.

Stevens said it was impossible for Torrance to develop airport facilities and build and extend the city's parks on the 16.8 cents left to the city out of each tax dollar. He indicated that 47.4 cents of each tax dollar goes to the Torrance Unified School system, and 35.8 cents to the Los Angeles county general fund, the county sanitation district, and water and flood control agencies.

FIFTY-FIFTY

The possibility of obtaining \$1,000,000 in funds from the Federal government to match the money raised by adoption of the airport bond issue was revealed by Councilman Willys G. Blount. He explained that the Federal assistance program to improve airports ends next year and unless the city raises its money first Federal funds will be withheld.

With this \$2,000,000, Blount said the city would be able to purchase 79 acres of land required to increase the safe operation of the airport. "Safety makes our airport," he said. "If it is not safe, we don't have an airport."

Airport improvement plans, Councilman Robert B. Jahn added, include the construction of a flood water retention basin to eliminate the flood hazards of the Welteria Lake area. "We'll kill two birds with one stone," Jahn declared. "We'll solve the drainage problem and create a recreational center around the basin."

Blount sketched the plans developed by Airport commission members to increase the amount of revenue derived from the operation of the airport. He said the plans include the leasing of land for industrial and commercial purposes in and

Cost to Taxpayers?

How much will the bond issue cost the average Torrance homeowner and taxpayer? City Manager George W. Stevens came up with these figures:

The \$1,000,000 airport bond issue will cost the taxpayer absolutely nothing. Interest and retirement of the bond issue will be paid entirely from airport revenues.

The \$3,000,000 park and recreation bond issue will cost the average homeowner \$4.50, or less, the first year. This breaks down to 37 cents a month for the average family. The rate will drop each year and "within a few years will be less than half."

As an example, Stevens explained that the average medium priced tract home is assessed at \$3000. The additional tax of 15 cents per \$100 valuation would increase the tract homeowners tax bill by \$4.50.

Fred Mill, comptroller of National Supply Co., estimated that his company would be required to pay \$7000 more a year in taxes.

Burned Badly In Auto Fire

Erwin N. Larson, 43, of 1446 E. 215th st., suffered third-degree burns over 95 percent of his body Tuesday morning when a match flame ignited gasoline vapors from a two-gallon can he was carrying in the back seat of his car.

The flames enveloped the car interior and set fire to Larson's clothing. Out of control, his car jumped the divider on Avalon blvd., near 192nd st., crossed the access road and ramed into a fire hydrant. Water shooting around the car did not put out the flames.

Larson crawled out of the car to the divider where he was found by passing motorists who called a Harbor General hospital ambulance.

Bank Buys Torrance School District Bonds

The Security-First National Bank purchased \$2,000,000 of school bonds issued by the Torrance Unified School district Tuesday. The money will be used to purchase land for West High school and to construct additional facilities at South High school. The school district will pay an annual interest rate of 3.67 percent.

APPOINT 3 TO FILL PARK COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Torrance Park Commission was up to full strength this week with the appointment by Mayor Albert Isen of three new members. They were:

Mrs. Kenneth W. McVey of 3825 W. 176 st., Bernard Dougan of 1327 Cota ave., and Ralph S. Morris of 312 Via Pasqual, Hollywood Riviera.

Isen filled the vacancies left by the resignations of three commission members in the past month. One, Herbert Albright, Jr. moved from Torrance, and the other two, George Vico and Mrs. William Boswell, left the commission in a huff of publicity.

Isen sought to counter the

publicity when he explained that the "rash of resignations are due to unfortunate misunderstandings." He said park commission members are appointed to advise the City Council. They have the power to make recommendations, but it is the council that makes the decisions.

Mrs. McVey, the mother of three children, has been a leader in PTA activities for the past ten years. Last year she served as Parent-Education chairman of the Torrance PTA council.

Dougan is a former president of Local 1-519 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Inter-

national Union. He has been active in church and community activities for many years.

Morris is Industrial Relations director of the Rome Cable Corp. plant, and an active member of the Lions club and other civic organizations. He recently was chairman of the White Cane campaign conducted by the Lions to provide assistance to the blind.

Mayor Isen also appointed William Hanson of Hollywood Riviera to fill a vacancy on the Library board, and reappointed Mrs. John G. L. Crain of 3753 W. 171 st. to another term on the board.



RALPH S. MORRIS



MRS. KENNETH W. McVEY



BERNARD DOUGAN



MEN'S SHOP OPENS

This week-end marks the official opening of the Torrance Men's shop located on the corner of Sartori and Marcelina in downtown Torrance. New fixtures, new windows, new fall merchandise and additional floor space is part of the city-wide campaign to modernize the downtown Torrance shopping area.